

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 1 and 7 as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a stator, comprising the steps of:

forming a stacked stator core including

a) forming a first core member by stacking a prescribed number of magnetic materials and ~~[[connecting]]~~ each having a plurality of yoke members connected to one another through a bendable bent portion,

b) forming a second core member having a yoke member by stacking the prescribed number of magnetic materials and arranging ~~[[a]]~~ the yoke member of the second core member in such a manner that one end of each magnetic material of said second core member is successively connected to the ~~[[other]]~~ next lower magnetic material of an end of said first core member through a bendable bent portion from the next lower magnetic material of the other end of said first core member by shifting entirely said second core member downwards by one magnetic material, with the same number of ~~stages of one end magnetic materials~~ of said second core member left unconnected as the prescribed number of ~~[[stages]]~~ magnetic materials,

c) forming a third core member by stacking the prescribed number of magnetic materials, each of which is made up of the same number of yoke members as said first core member connected through the bendable bent portion, and

connecting one end of ~~[[the]]~~ a magnetic material of said third core member to the other end of said second core member through a bendable bent portion by shifting entirely said third core member downwards, and

d) forming a fourth core member having a yoke member by stacking the prescribed number of magnetic materials and arranging ~~[[a]]~~ the yoke member of the fourth core member in such a manner that one end of each magnetic material of said fourth core member is successively connected to a next ~~[[stage]]~~ lower magnetic material of the other end of said third core member through a bendable bent portion from the next magnetic material of the other end of said third core member by shifting entirely said fourth core member downwards by one magnetic material, with a same number of ~~[[stages]]~~ magnetic materials of ~~one end of~~ said fourth core member left unconnected as ~~[[a]]~~ the prescribed number of ~~[[stages]]~~ magnetic materials,

wherein the first, the second, the third and the fourth core members are independently arranged in a ring and mutually stacked;

unfolding the stacked stator core straight;

subjecting the straight stacked stator core to a prescribed treatment;

winding a wire around teeth of the straight stacked stator core subjected to the prescribed treatment; and

winding up the straight wire-wound stacked stator core to restore the core to its original arrangement in a ring.

2. (Original) The method of manufacturing a stator according to Claim 1, wherein the prescribed treatment is electrocoating.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a stator according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of winding-up the wire-wound stacked stator core such that the wire-wound side faces the inside of the core.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a stator according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of winding-up the wire-wound stacked stator core such that the wire-wound side faces the outside of the core.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a stator, comprising the steps of:

forming a stacked stator core including

a) forming a first core member by stacking a prescribed number of magnetic materials and ~~[[connecting]]~~ each having a plurality of yoke members connected to one another through a bendable bent portion,

b) forming a second core member having a yoke member by stacking the prescribed number of magnetic materials and arranging ~~[[a]]~~ the yoke member of the second core member in such a manner that one end of each magnetic material of said second core member is successively connected to the ~~[[other]]~~ next lower magnetic material of an end of said first core member through a bendable bent portion from the next lower magnetic material of the other end of said first core

member by shifting entirely said second core member downwards by one magnetic material,

c) forming a third core member by stacking the prescribed number of magnetic materials, each of which is made up of the same number of yoke members as said first core member connected through the bendable bent portion, and connecting one end of ~~[[the]]~~ a magnetic material of said third core member to the other end of said second core member through a bendable bent portion by shifting entirely said third core member downwards, and

d) forming a fourth core member having a yoke member by stacking the prescribed number of magnetic materials and arranging ~~[[a]]~~ the yoke member of the fourth core member in such a manner that one end of each magnetic material of said fourth core member is successively connected to a next ~~[[stage]]~~ lower magnetic material of the other end of said third core member through a bendable bent portion from the next magnetic material of the other end of said third core member by shifting entirely said fourth core member downwards by one magnetic material, with a same number of ~~stages of one end~~ magnetic materials of said fourth core member left unconnected as ~~[[a]]~~ the prescribed number of ~~[[stages]]~~ magnetic materials,

wherein the first, the second, the third and the fourth core members are continuously arranged in a shape of a spiral,

wherein the third core is stacked on the first core and the ~~[[forth]]~~ fourth core is stacked on the second core;

unfolding the stacked stator core straight;

subjecting the straight stacked stator core to a prescribed treatment;

winding a wire around teeth of the straight stacked stator core subjected to the prescribed treatment; and

winding up the straight wire-wound stacked stator core to restore the core to its original arrangement in a ring.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a stator according to Claim 7, wherein the prescribed treatment is electrocoating.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a stator according to Claim 7, wherein the wire-wound stacked stator core is wound up such that the wire-wound side faces the inside of the core.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of manufacturing a stator according to Claim 7, wherein the wire-wound stacked stator core is wound up such that the wire-wound side faces the outside of the core.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)